

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Glenn Seager on Friday, January 14, 2011.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claim amendments filed 06/03/2010:

In Claim 1, line 6 after "backing" insert --tapers continuously from a proximal end to a distal end to form-- and delete "has" before "a generally conical shape".

In Claim 26, line 5 after "backing" insert --tapers continuously from a proximal end to a distal end to form-- and delete "has" before "a generally conical shape".

In Claim 33, line 6 after "backing" insert --tapers continuously from a proximal end to a distal end to form-- and delete "has" before "a generally conical shape".

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: None of the prior art alone or in combination discloses or suggests a collapsible closure component conical backing that tapers continuously from a proximal end to a distal end in its non-deployed form having tissue engaging members that entangle the backing in the collapsed, deployed form.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DIANE YABUT whose telephone number is (571)272-6831. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 9AM-4PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Jackson can be reached on (571) 272-4697. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Diane Yabut/
Examiner, Art Unit 3734

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